

HB 630 -- KANSAS CITY RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

SPONSOR: Leara

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Pensions by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Financial Institutions and Taxation by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill changes the laws regarding credit for military service for a member of the Police Retirement System of Kansas City and the Civilian Employees' Retirement System of the Police Department of Kansas City. Currently, a member who is on leave of absence for military service must be entitled to service credit for the time spent in military service and must not be required to pay any member contributions for the time. The bill specifies that, on or after August 28, 2015, a member who returns to service from a leave of absence for active duty military service must be entitled to service credit for the time spent in the military service only to the extent the member pays any required contributions to the system for the time he or she was on leave of absence up to a total of five years. The retirement board of each system may waive the required contributions for up to three years of creditable service if the member provides duty orders under Title 10 or Title 32 U.S.C. and discharge from active duty documentation in the form of a DD214 or NGB23.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill changes the laws regarding credit for military service for a member of the Police Retirement System of Kansas City and the Civilian Employees' Retirement System of the Police Department of Kansas City. We have a lot of members that were in active duty and the cost has risen and this will help cover those costs.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Leara; James Pyle, Police Retirement System of Kansas City; and Kansas City Fraternal Order of Police.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.